

the mans Decree: Kai Ping / Chen Ping

Chapter 4621

In an instant, thousands of sword beams materialized in the void, filling the air with their menacing brilliance.

These beams stretched across the sky, all pointed directly at Kai.

“Ten thousand swords unleashed at once...”

Qiu Tu’s aura surged, reaching its peak as the energy around him roared to life.

Swish, swish, swish!

Tens of thousands of sword beams shot forth like a meteor shower, lighting up the heavens and earth. The sheer force of the attack echoed like the simultaneous firing of a thousand cannons, shaking the very world.

Seeing his brother unleash his ultimate technique, Qiu Yu’s despair turned to elation, and a smile spread across his face.

“So, you do have some tricks,” Kai murmured, his eyes narrowing slightly.

With calm precision, he raised the Dragon Slaying Sword.

“Nine Shadow Sword Technique...”

A brilliant light burst from the blade as Kai activated his technique. Suddenly, several identical figures emerged beside him.

Seven identical Kais now stood before Qiu Tu, each wielding a Dragon Slaying Sword and emanating an identical, formidable aura.

“Hmph! No matter what tricks you use, you’ll still die under my ten thousand arrows!”

Qiu Tu was momentarily stunned by the sight of seven Kais but quickly dismissed it with a cold sneer. To him, it didn’t matter how many copies there were—under the overwhelming assault of ten thousand swords, death was inevitable.

Kai, undeterred by Qiu Tu’s arrogance, raised the Dragon Slaying Sword higher.

“Ten Thousand Swords Return to the Clan...”

With those words, Kai revealed one of the Ten Thousand Swords Sect’s ultimate techniques. Having mastered the sword intent of the Sword Washing Pond and the secret teachings of the Ten Thousand Swords Sect, Kai stood unshaken, even in the face of Qiu Tu’s full power.

All seven Kais moved in unison, wielding the Dragon Slaying Sword to unleash Ten Thousand Swords Return to the Clan.

The sky was suddenly illuminated by countless beams of light emanating from the Dragon Slaying Sword. Compared to Qiu Tu’s ten thousand arrows, Kai’s sword beams numbered seventy thousand!

The sheer number and density of Kai’s attack completely eclipsed Qiu Tu’s, leaving no room for comparison. Qiu Tu’s ten thousand sword beams crumbled under the might of Kai’s Ten Thousand Swords Returning to the Origin. Not a single beam could breach the barrier of Kai’s overwhelming attack.

As Qiu Tu’s assault dissolved into nothingness, Kai’s barrage of sword beams surged forward, advancing relentlessly toward Qiu Yu.

Stunned, Qiu Tu froze in disbelief. The long sword slipped from his grasp, clattering to the ground.

“Run!”

This single thought consumed Qiu Tu. He no longer dared to continue the fight. Gritting his teeth, he transformed into a streak of light and bolted into the distance, moving as fast as possible to escape the onslaught pursuing him.

Fearful of the relentless sword beams catching up, Qiu Tu didn't even glance back at his younger brother.

Kai watched him flee but chose not to give chase. Instead, he calmly sheathed the Dragon Slaying Sword. He had no intention of killing Qiu Tu—driving him away was enough. For now, Kai's priority was locating the vein of fairy stones.

“Zhongli, you've done well,” Kai said softly as the glow of the Dragon Slaying Sword dimmed, and the sword spirit, Zhongli, returned to its blade.

“It is my honor to fight for you, Master,” Zhongli's voice echoed in Kai's mind, filled with pride and satisfaction.

Kai then turned his gaze to Qiu Yu, his eyes cold and indifferent. “Is there anyone else coming to save you?”

Qiu Yu trembled at those words, realizing he had lost all support. He knew the only thing awaiting him now was unbearable suffering.

Kai raised the Dragon Slaying Sword, ready to extract Qiu Yu's beast pill. While he had spared Qiu Tu, Qiu Yu would receive no such mercy.

“Kai!”

Before he could act, a voice suddenly called out to him.

Turning, Kai saw the youngest sister running toward him, dragging her brother along.

It seemed her brother had noticed Kai hadn't followed and decided to bring her back. But the grim aftermath of the battle left both siblings horrified.

"Isn't that Mr. Qiu?" the youngest sister's brother exclaimed in shock, pointing at Qiu Yu's battered figure lying on the ground.

Chapter 4622

"Do you know him?" Kai asked, turning to the youngest sister's brother.

"Of course! This Mr. Qiu is well-known in Beast City. He struts around the streets as if he owns them," the brother replied.

"Well, he won't be strutting anywhere now—I've crippled his legs," Kai said nonchalantly.

"Brother-in-law, you're being reckless! Mr. Qiu's father is one of the three Beast Generals. Crippling his legs is bound to bring serious trouble!" the brother exclaimed, his face full of shock.

"Trouble?" Kai smiled faintly. "Not only will I cripple his legs—I'll kill him too."

With that, Kai gripped the Dragon Slaying Sword and drove it into Qiu Yu with force, extracting his beast pill. Qiu Yu died instantly, unable to even plead for his life.

The siblings were terrified. They never imagined Kai would dare to kill the son of one of the three Beast Generals. It was an act of unparalleled audacity.

“I should tell you—I ended up in jail for beating up Qiu Yu,” Kai began. “Now that I’ve killed him, the Qiu family will undoubtedly come after me. They’ll send people to hunt me down, and it’ll be a blood feud.”

He looked at the siblings sternly. “So you two shouldn’t follow me. It’ll be far too dangerous.”

Kai said this deliberately, hoping to scare the siblings into leaving him. He understood that while he could walk away from Beast City whenever he wanted, the brother and sister couldn’t. If they became entangled in his conflict with the Qiu family, their lives would be at risk.

“Brother, let’s go,” the youngest sister said, tugging on her brother’s arm. By chance, the siblings had ended up following Kai, but there was no deep bond between them.

The youngest sister had never shared an intimate relationship with Kai, and there was no special attachment, so accompanying him wasn’t a significant commitment for her.

“Sister, since my brother-in-law has caused such a big problem, we can’t just stand by and do nothing,” her brother said firmly. “If we turned our backs on him now, it would be heartless of us. After all, you two have been close—how can you pretend there’s nothing between you?”

He added with conviction, “If the Qiu family comes after him, I won’t sit idly by. Once we’re out of Beast City and into the outskirts, we won’t have anything to fear. As long as we stay out of the city, they won’t be able to find us!”

His words left the youngest sister stunned. She stared at her brother in disbelief, feeling as though he had undergone a sudden change.

What the youngest sister didn’t realize was that her brother’s willingness to support Kai stemmed entirely from Kai’s strength and the secret of the fairy stone veins.

“Brother, about Kai and me...” she began, intending to clarify that there was nothing between them.

But her brother interrupted her firmly. “Sister, stop talking. My life was saved by my brother-in-law. Can you really abandon him when he’s in danger? What kind of people would that make us?”

His words left no room for argument. If she persisted, it would make her seem heartless and ungrateful.

Kai, realizing how determined they were, sighed and relented. “Fine, you two can follow me, but don’t stray too far. If danger comes, I might not be able to protect you.”

“Don’t worry, brother-in-law,” her brother said with confidence, patting Kai on the shoulder. “I know this area well. If anyone tries to hunt us down, I can lead us to safety.”

Kai could only smile helplessly at his enthusiasm as they set off together toward the southern part of the city.

After traveling a hundred miles, they came upon a towering tree, just as Xiong Kuo had described.

Chapter 4623

Kai followed the youngest sister and her brother to the large tree, but to his surprise, there was no one there.

“Did that bear trick us?” the youngest sister’s brother exclaimed angrily, frustrated by the lack of results.

“I don’t think so,” Kai replied, shaking his head. “He gave me the jade pendant. Lying to me wouldn’t benefit him at all.”

Just then, a faint cry for help echoed in the air.

“Help...”

The voice was so weak that only Kai’s heightened senses could pick it up.

“Someone’s calling for help,” Kai said, his gaze shifting toward the source of the sound as he extended his consciousness to investigate.

“Where? I don’t hear anything,” the brother said, puzzled.

“I can’t hear it either,” the sister added, shaking her head.

Without hesitation, Kai darted off in the direction of the cry. Seeing this, the siblings hurriedly followed him.

Meanwhile, dozens of miles away, two burly men stood menacingly around a trembling girl. Their faces were twisted with malicious, lecherous smiles.

The girl, clutching a dagger, glared at them with terrified eyes. “Don’t come any closer! My brother will be back soon,” she warned, her voice trembling.

One of the men sneered. “Xiong Ying, stop bluffing. Your brother’s been arrested and thrown in jail. He’s not coming back, and without him, no one can stop us from having our fun.”

The other man chuckled darkly. “Yeah, we saw him hauled off with our own eyes. If he wasn’t locked up, we wouldn’t have this opportunity, would we?”

The girl, Xiong Ying, was Xiong Kuo’s sister. Her grip on the dagger tightened as tears streamed down her face.

“That’s not true! My brother isn’t in jail. You’re lying!” she cried, her voice quivering with both fear and desperation.

“If he’s not in jail, then why hasn’t he come back all this time?” one of the men jeered, licking his lips as his patience began to wear thin. “You two

are my brother's best friends, yet instead of helping him while he's in jail, you're here to bully me. Do you even have a conscience?" Xiong Ying shouted angrily, her voice trembling with both fury and despair.

These two men weren't just random strangers—they were Xiong Kuo's closest companions, often seen eating and drinking with him. Like Xiong Kuo, they were also black bear transformations.

But now, with Xiong Kuo imprisoned, they had revealed their true nature, turning their attention to Xiong Ying, whose beauty they had secretly coveted for a long time.

"We're not bullying you; we're helping you," one of them said with a smirk. "Your strength is too weak. We're willing to spend our spiritual energy cultivating with you, just to improve your abilities."

"Bah! I'd rather die than let you succeed," Xiong Ying spat, her eyes burning with defiance. She raised the dagger in her hand, prepared to slash her own neck.

Before she could move, one of the men struck her hand with a swift palm, sending the dagger flying out of her grasp.

Though Xiong Ying was at the seventh level of the Tribulation Realm, she was no match for these two men, who were both at the ninth level.

With the weapon out of her reach, the men lunged forward, each grabbing one of her arms as though they meant to tear her apart.

"I'm going first," one said greedily.

"No, I'll go first," the other retorted, eager to claim her for himself.

"Stop!"

A cold, commanding voice rang out. In the next moment, Kai stepped between them, his expression icy.

The two men paused, stunned by his sudden appearance.

“Kid, don’t interfere with our business,” one of them growled. “Get lost while you still can!”

As their attention shifted to Kai, Xiong Ying seized the moment. With a burst of desperate energy, she broke free from their grip and stumbled behind Kai.

The men were momentarily shocked by her sudden movement and staggered backward a few steps before steadying themselves.

Tears streamed down Xiong Ying’s face as she clung to Kai. “Daoyou, please save me! They’re trying to force me into dual cultivation. I don’t want this—I don’t want this!”

Kai turned to look at Xiong Ying, and for a brief moment, he froze.

The girl before him was breathtakingly beautiful, like a celestial maiden stepping out of an ancient painting. Her allure wasn’t just in the perfection of her features but in an ethereal grace that made her unforgettable at first glance.

Chapter 4624

Her face was delicate, like a freshly bloomed lily. Her eyebrows arched gracefully, resembling distant mist-covered mountains, while her eyes, clear and serene like autumn water, seemed to carry endless stories with every blink.

She possessed a graceful figure that struck a perfect balance—neither too slender nor overly full. Each curve highlighted her feminine beauty and understated strength.

Her waist was willowy, and her steps were elegant. As she walked, her skirt swayed gently, much like a lotus leaf stirred by the morning breeze, exuding both poise and vitality.

She wore a dress styled in an ancient fashion, seemingly tailored just for her. The soft, delicate fabric was vibrant yet tastefully elegant.

The skirt fell to her ankles, revealing delicately embroidered shoes, adding a touch of classical charm to her presence.

“Brother-in-law, you’re running too fast! Wait for us!”

At that moment, the youngest sister and her brother finally caught up.

However, when the youngest sister’s brother laid eyes on Xiong Ying, he froze in place, his eyes widening, and his jaw dropping in disbelief.

“She’s so beautiful! How can someone be this beautiful?” he exclaimed, unable to contain himself.

The youngest sister looked at Xiong Ying and felt a twinge of inferiority. Compared to Xiong Ying, she seemed so plain and unremarkable.

“If you don’t want trouble, scram! Don’t waste our time!”

A burly man nearby shouted impatiently, his voice booming.

It was then that the youngest sister’s brother snapped out of his daze and turned to face the two strong men.

“Fellow cultivator, save me! Please, save me!” Xiong Ying’s tearful eyes brimmed with helplessness, making her look heartbreakingly vulnerable.

“Don’t be afraid. I’ll protect you!” the youngest sister’s brother declared, stepping in front of Xiong Ying with a determined expression.

Kai glanced at him, a faint smile playing on his lips. “Can you even take them on?”

The youngest sister’s brother hesitated, eyeing the two burly men nervously. Finally, he shook his head and said, “No, I can’t... but you can! It’ll be easy for you!”

The youngest sister's brother had witnessed Kai's abilities before. Despite being at the ninth level of the Tribulation Realm, Kai could effortlessly defeat those at the fourth level of the Mahayana Realm.

What's more, Kai had recently slain several powerful cultivators from the Qiu family, all of whom were in the Mahayana Realm.

"You're not wrong," Kai said with a smirk. Kai smiled helplessly. This guy wanted to play the hero and save the beauty but clearly expected him to do all the work!

"Damn it, stop nagging! Do you want to die?"

One of the burly men, growing impatient, charged directly at Kai and the others.

Without even sparing him a glance, Kai casually waved his hand. Instantly, a massive force surged forward, knocking the man off his feet.

The attacker's body slammed heavily onto the ground, leaving him coughing up blood and unable to rise.

Kai didn't consider opponents of the same level worth his attention. To him, defeating them was no more effort than crushing an ant.

The sight left the other burly man frozen in shock. He hadn't imagined that Kai, a ninth-grade cultivator in the Tribulation Realm with the same cultivation level as them, could overpower them so effortlessly.

It was unbelievable!

The man quickly bent down, grabbed his injured companion, and fled without looking back.

Kai didn't bother chasing them. There was no deep grudge between them, and killing them would've been unnecessary. Besides, Kai didn't even know Xiong Ying at this point.

Watching Kai drive away the two men with a mere wave of his hand, Xiong Ying's eyes widened in astonishment. Her gaze toward Kai shifted noticeably.

"Don't worry, beauty. My brother-in-law scared them off," the youngest sister's brother said proudly, deliberately emphasizing the word "brother-in-law" as if to make a point.

"Thank you..." Xiong Ying said softly, bowing to express her gratitude.

"You're welcome. It's nothing, really. By the way, may I ask your name, beautiful lady? And what brings you here?" the youngest sister's brother asked, his tone dripping with flattery.

"My name is Xiong Ying. I'm waiting for my brother," Xiong Ying replied.

"Xiong Ying?"

Kai and the youngest sister's brother were both startled. They stared at Xiong Ying in disbelief.

Chapter 4625

Neither of them had expected Xiong Kuo's sister to be so stunning—it was simply unbelievable!

And to think that Xiong Kuo had claimed his sister wasn't attractive at all!

Now that they realized the girl before them was Xiong Ying, Xiong Kuo's sister, Kai and Yaomei's brother were completely dumbfounded.

This defied all their expectations. They had assumed Xiong Kuo's sister would be rugged and stocky, just like her brother.

Instead, she had a slender waist and a delicate, pitiful appearance that was worlds apart from what they imagined.

Yaomei's brother, in particular, kept rubbing his eyes, staring at Xiong Ying in disbelief.

He still remembered teasing Xiong Kuo in prison, mocking him and saying that Xiong Kuo's sister couldn't possibly be as beautiful as his own.

But now, with Yaomei standing next to Xiong Ying, it was painfully clear—Yaomei looked utterly ordinary by comparison!

“Why... why are you two staring at me like that?”

Xiong Ying felt a little uneasy under Kai's and Yaomei's brother's wide-eyed gazes.

“Beauty, we didn't expect you to be Xiong Ying...” Yaomei's brother stammered, quickly trying to explain.

“What? You know me?” Xiong Ying asked, her face puzzled.

“Of course, I know you! Your brother and I were cellmates. He talked about you all the time,” Yaomei's brother replied, nodding eagerly, a flattering expression on his face.

This guy was clearly losing control at the sight of such a beautiful woman.

Yaomei, watching her brother's behavior, was left speechless. She didn't even know what to say.

“My brother was really in jail? How is he?”

Hearing this, Xiong Ying's expression turned panicked, her voice trembling with concern.

“Don't worry, your brother's fine. We have a plan to get him out,” Yaomei's brother assured her immediately, trying to calm her down.

“Really? Thank you so much!” Xiong Ying said, her eyes lighting up with relief. Upon hearing this, Xiong Ying immediately gave the youngest sister’s brother a grateful look.

Feeling her gaze, the youngest sister’s brother straightened his posture noticeably, puffing up with pride.

“Did you and your brother discover a vein of fairy stone?” Kai asked Xiong Ying.

The mention of the vein made Xiong Ying immediately wary. She narrowed her eyes and replied cautiously, “What are you talking about? Where is this so-called vein of fairy stone?”

Seeing her hesitation, Kai pulled out a jade pendant and said, “You don’t need to worry. Your brother told us about it and entrusted me with this jade pendant.

“He said that once you saw the pendant, you would share the location of the vein. Only by finding it can we rescue your brother.”

Xiong Ying took the jade pendant, inspecting it carefully. Her expression shifted to one of excitement as she exclaimed, “This is my brother’s jade pendant! It seems he really does know you.”

“The vein of fairy stone isn’t here,” she continued. “I’ll take you to it.”

Relieved, Xiong Ying lowered her guard and led Kai and the others toward the vein of fairy stone.

To ensure they weren’t discovered, Kai set up a moving shielding array that cloaked their group as they traveled.

They avoided flying since it would make them too conspicuous and easy to spot.

Along the way, the youngest sister’s brother kept striking up conversations with Xiong Ying, constantly trying to get close to her. It

was clear he had intentions toward her—after all, what man wouldn't be drawn to such a beautiful woman?

However, the more he tried, the more Xiong Ying's expression soured. Eventually, she stopped responding to him altogether.

In contrast, Kai remained silent throughout the journey and didn't attempt to approach Xiong Ying. Strangely enough, this only made Xiong Ying more drawn to him.

The fact that Kai carried her brother's jade pendant solidified her belief that he was the one capable of rescuing her brother.

"How much farther?" Kai asked after they had been walking for an hour.

"Not far," Xiong Ying replied, pointing toward a hill up ahead. "It's just beyond that hill."

Chapter 4626

Kai gazed up at the mountain peak and noticed it wasn't secluded or difficult to reach. How could a vein of fairy stone exist here without being discovered?

"This place is easy to find. Why hasn't anyone noticed it?" Kai asked, puzzled.

"You'll understand when we get there," Xiong Ying replied with a faint smile.

Her smile had an almost magical effect, making Kai feel as though a gentle spring breeze had brushed past him.

Meanwhile, the youngest sister's brother was immediately entranced, staring at her with his mouth agape.

“Brother, look at yourself! Aren’t you embarrassed?” the youngest sister snapped at him in disgust.

“Don’t mind me! You should worry about your brother-in-law. He’s over there chatting with another girl right in front of you!” the brother retorted.

The youngest sister rolled her eyes and ignored him, exasperated by his antics.

After another half-hour of climbing, they finally reached the summit. In front of them was a deep, dark abyss.

However, there were no signs of a fairy stone vein on the mountain top. Kai was certain he would have detected it if it were present—the spiritual energy from fairy stones was distinct from that of regular spirit stones.

“It seems there’s no fairy stone vein here,” Kai said, turning to Xiong Ying with a confused expression.

“Follow me,” Xiong Ying said simply before leaping into the abyss.

Startled but unfazed, Kai and the others followed suit. Although the abyss plunged thousands of feet, it posed no threat to cultivators who could fly.

As they fell, a small cave entrance became visible on the cliffside. It was narrow, large enough for only one person to enter at a time.

Xiong Ying steadied herself mid-air and stepped into the cave.

Kai and the others followed her inside. The moment Kai entered, he immediately sensed the distinct aura of fairy stone energy permeating the air. The cave was pitch-dark, so Kai conjured a ball of fire in his palm, illuminating their surroundings.

As they ventured deeper into the cave, faint glimmers caught Kai’s eye. Scattered fairy stones were embedded in the stone walls around them.

Though the quantity didn't seem vast, compared to searching fruitlessly for a single fairy stone for years outside, this place was practically a treasure trove.

"So many fairy stones... so much money!"

The youngest sister's brother exclaimed, his eyes wide with greed. He immediately began clawing at the stone wall, trying to dig out the fairy stones with his bare hands.

But the fairy stones appeared to be firmly fused with the stone wall. No matter how hard he tried, he couldn't dislodge a single one.

"The stone wall is incredibly tough," Xiong Ying explained quickly. "If you want to mine the fairy stones, it takes time, patience, and a lot of spiritual power."

She added, "If it were as easy as plucking them out, my brother and I would've mined plenty long ago."

Kai spotted a fist-sized fairy stone and walked over. Raising the flame in his palm, he directed the heat toward the stone wall, roasting it gently.

Moments later, he reached out and gave the stone a light tap. It broke free and fell into his hand.

"Is the stone wall weak against fire?" Xiong Ying asked, astonished by what she had just witnessed.

She and her brother had exhausted themselves trying to mine even a few stones, and their attempts to sell them in Beast City had ended in their arrest.

"After heating it with flames, the stone wall becomes less rigid, making the fairy stones easier to extract," Kai explained.

He then asked, "Does anyone else know about this vein?"

“No, only my brother and I. And now, you,” Xiong Ying replied, shaking her head.

Kai scanned the cave walls, noting the number of fairy stones embedded within. He realized there was no way their small group could extract all the stones on their own.

They would need help—cooperation would be essential for mining the vein efficiently.

But who could they trust to mine the fairy stones?

Chapter 4627

Kai considered Liu Zhongnan. After all, Liu Zhongnan frequently dealt in fairy stones in Beast City and had extensive knowledge about them.

But on second thought, Liu Zhongnan’s fear of death, coupled with his greed and his ties to the City Lord’s Mansion, made him an unsuitable choice. If Liu Zhongnan learned of the mine, he might claim it for himself. With that, Kai dismissed the idea of involving him.

Next, Kai thought of Baicheng, but he quickly discarded that idea as well. Baicheng was a guest under General Xing, and if Baicheng learned about the mine, it was likely General Xing would, too. Kai couldn’t risk that. His current strength was no match for General Xing’s forces, and if the mine were seized, he’d be powerless to stop it.

Suddenly, a name came to mind: Uncle Qian, the man his younger sister had introduced him to when he first arrived in Beast City.

Uncle Qian wasn’t affiliated with the City Lord’s Mansion, nor was he aligned with Beast City’s inhabitants. As a fellow human cultivator, Uncle Qian would never side with the Beast City factions.

Moreover, Uncle Qian’s strength, having reached the fourth level of the Mahayana Realm, was formidable enough to keep any threats at bay.

When they had first met, Uncle Qian had been friendly, recognizing Kai as a fellow human cultivator.

“That’s it...” Kai thought to himself, deciding to cooperate with Uncle Qian to mine the fairy stone vein.

Kai knew he couldn’t linger in Beast City for too long. He needed to mine the fairy stones quickly, which meant finding a reliable partner was essential.

After finalizing his plan, Kai turned to the group and said, “Wait for me here. I have something to take care of. While I’m gone, don’t try mining the fairy stones yourselves. Save your spiritual power and stay vigilant against any accidents.”

“Brother Chen... are you going to rescue my brother?” Xiong Ying asked. She had already given Kai the location of the vein and assumed he would focus on saving her brother next.

“Yes, I’m going to rescue your brother,” Kai replied with a nod.

“Thank you!” Xiong Ying said with a radiant smile.

Kai felt his heart skip slightly. Xiong Ying’s smile was breathtaking, exuding a charm that could soften even the hardest heart.

It had been a while since Kai had experienced such feelings. But despite her beauty, Kai, who had seen countless stunning women, was in no rush to pursue dual cultivation or romantic entanglements.

After all, Zhongli was already by his side, and he had never lacked the company of beautiful women, each more remarkable than the last. Kai exited the cave and made his way directly toward Beast City.

Meanwhile, in a general’s mansion within the city, a corpse lay in the courtyard—it was Qiu Yu. Standing over the body, Qiu Tu’s expression was a mix of grief and frustration.

Beside him was Qiu Wanqing, his father, dressed in a general's uniform. His face was stern, but there was little sorrow in his eyes. Instead, they were filled with a heavy seriousness.

"Tu'er, you're telling me that your brother was killed by a ninth-rank Tribulation Realm cultivator, and even you couldn't defeat him?" Qiu Wanqing asked, his tone calm but penetrating.

"Yes, Father," Qiu Tu nodded. "I've investigated the matter. The man's name is Kai, and he has recently become a guest under Xing Daorong."

Qiu Tu referred to General Xing, one of the three Beast Generals of Beast City.

"A guest of Xing Daorong killed my son?" Qiu Wanqing said, his voice steady but laced with menace. "It seems the feud between us and Xing Daorong is destined to erupt sooner than anticipated."

He then raised his gaze toward the south, where Xing Daorong's mansion stood, his expression unreadable but tense.

At that moment, the Qiu family's steward entered the courtyard and approached Qiu Wanqing. "General, we've located the man who has been disrupting the fairy stone market and engaging in private transactions."

"Tu'er," Qiu Wanqing instructed his son, "take some men and handle this. If you can bring him under control, do so. There's no need for unnecessary bloodshed. Focus on securing the fairy stones. The agreed deadline is fast approaching."

"Yes, Father," Qiu Tu replied, though his eyes lingered briefly on Qiu Yu's lifeless body.

"What about my brother's body?" Qiu Tu asked hesitantly.

"Burn it," Qiu Wanqing said dismissively, as if Qiu Yu were no more than an ordinary casualty and not his own son.

Chapter 4628

Qiu Tu wasn't surprised by his father's attitude. To Qiu Wanqing, power outweighed even his son. Losing his son meant he could always have another child, but losing his power would make reclaiming it much harder.

Qiu Wanqing's focus was entirely on controlling Beast City. Currently, the city had three beast generals, each commanding their own faction. Qiu Wanqing aimed to subdue the other two generals and take full control of the city.

The city lord had been absent for a long time, likely preparing to ascend to immortality. Once the city lord ascended, Beast City would need a new leader.

Qiu Wanqing wanted to be that leader. To achieve this, he needed to consolidate his influence and overpower the other two beast generals before the city lord's ascension.

However, Qiu Wanqing wasn't alone in this ambition. The other two generals had similar plans. Xing Daorong, for instance, actively recruited followers, offering enticing benefits to strengthen his claim to leadership.

Meanwhile, Qiu Tu led his men to track down the individual secretly buying fairy stones.

"Sir, this is the place. We've discovered that the owner of this courtyard is Qian Yue, a human cultivator who's concealed his aura and has been purchasing fairy stones at high prices here in Beast City," the Qiu Mansion housekeeper reported in a low voice.

Staring at the unassuming courtyard, Qiu Tu ordered, "Surround the area and summon Master Luan. There's likely a formation protecting this courtyard."

He added, “Father advised us to avoid unnecessary violence. We need capable individuals now more than ever.”

Qiu Tu understood that the courtyard’s defenses couldn’t be breached recklessly. A human cultivator who had managed to hide in Beast City while secretly trading in fairy stones was clearly no ordinary person. Qiu Tu’s goal was to capture Qian Yue and recruit him.

“Sir, our men have surrounded the courtyard, and Master Luan is on his way,” the housekeeper assured him.

Qiu Tu nodded in approval. The housekeeper of the Qiu Mansion had earned his position with his keen ability to read situations.

Moments later, an elderly man in a green robe with a goatee arrived.

This man, Master Luan, was the formation expert Qiu Tu had called upon. Formation masters were highly respected in Beast City.

“Master Luan...”

The moment Master Luan arrived, Qiu Tu and the housekeeper stepped forward to greet him with a respectful salute.

“Mr. Qiu, what is it you need from me?” Master Luan asked.

“Master Luan, there’s a human cultivator hiding in this house. I suspect the place is protected by a formation. I’d like your assistance in breaking it—quietly, without alarming the occupant,” Qiu Tu explained.

“A trivial matter...” Master Luan replied confidently as a glowing rune appeared in his palm.

With a gentle wave of his hand, the rune dissolved into the air. Instantly, a faint white light enveloped the house, revealing no further resistance.

“It’s done,” Master Luan said calmly.

“That’s it?” Qiu Tu was astonished. Unable to contain his admiration, he exclaimed, “Master Luan truly lives up to his reputation as a master of formations. Remarkable!”

“This low-level formation was hardly a challenge,” Master Luan replied with a touch of pride.

With the formation neutralized, Qiu Tu led his men into the courtyard without hesitation.

Inside, Qian Yue was still organizing the fairy stones he had acquired. He intended to pass them to Kai soon, aware that keeping too many in his possession might draw the attention of the City Lord’s Mansion.

Believing his formation provided ample protection, Qian Yue had let his guard down. He never imagined someone could break in unnoticed. By the time he realized intruders had entered, it was already too late.

Chapter 4629

Qiu Tu and his men kicked the door open, barging in to confront Qian Yue.

Qian Yue was stunned, his gaze shifting to the pile of fairy stones before him.

“How dare you trade fairy stones illegally in Beast City!” Qiu Tu shouted angrily, his eyes fixed on the incriminating evidence.

Qiu Tu deliberately refrained from mentioning Qian Yue’s identity as a human cultivator, fearing it might drive him to desperation and provoke a deadly fight.

Trading fairy stones privately wasn’t a grave offense in itself, but for a human cultivator to live secretly in Beast City and engage in such activities, it was unquestionably a capital crime.

“Mr. Qiu?” Qian Yue stammered, visibly startled to see Qiu Tu leading the charge in person.

Normally, such matters were handled by Beast City’s law enforcement team. It was unusual for someone of Qiu Tu’s stature to personally apprehend a trader of illegal fairy stones.

“Since you recognize me, this will be easier,” Qiu Tu said coldly. “Confess your crime and spare yourself unnecessary suffering.”

Realizing Qiu Tu hadn’t discovered his human identity, Qian Yue felt a surge of relief. Lowering his head, he said, “Mr. Qiu, I admit my guilt. I traded fairy stones privately and accept my punishment.”

Pleased with Qian Yue’s submissive attitude, Qiu Tu nodded. Such individuals were the easiest to control.

“Illegal trading of fairy stones warrants punishment,” Qiu Tu declared. “But since your attitude is commendable, you’ll be spared imprisonment. However, these fairy stones will be confiscated.”

Qian Yue stared at Qiu Tu in disbelief. “Mr. Qiu, are you serious? I truly won’t be jailed?”

“Of course,” Qiu Tu replied nonchalantly. “There are many others engaged in this kind of trade, and even some official purchase points are corrupt. These situations are widespread, and we often turn a blind eye.”

Qian Yue was dumbfounded. He couldn’t fathom that such words came from Qiu Tu, who represented the City Lord’s Mansion. Could it really be that the mansion was so lenient toward the illegal trade of fairy stones? “Mr. Qiu, this...”

For a moment, Qian Yue was at a loss for words. Qiu Tu’s unexpected attitude made the situation feel almost surreal.

“You’re reselling fairy stones privately just to make a living. I can understand that,” Qiu Tu said calmly. “But this time, I caught you. If

someone else from the General's Mansion had found you, you might not have been so lucky."

He continued, "Here's what we'll do: you can keep buying fairy stones, but from now on, you'll deliver them directly to our mansion. Of course, we'll ensure you still make a profit, so there's no need to worry."

Stepping forward, Qiu Tu patted Qian Yue on the shoulder.

Qian Yue's eyes widened in disbelief. His face flushed with excitement, and his breathing quickened. "Mr. Qiu, are you serious?" he asked, his voice trembling.

"Of course I'm serious. From today, you're part of the Qiu Mansion. No one will dare to investigate you anymore."

Leaning in closer, Qiu Tu added in a low voice, "I know you're human, but the Qiu Mansion doesn't discriminate against other races. You have nothing to fear."

Qiu Tu's words hit Qian Yue like a bombshell, shaking him to his core.

He had never imagined that Beast City could tolerate other races. Did this mean the city now allowed non-beasts to live openly?

If so, what was the point of joining the resistance alliance? Why resist at all if coexistence was possible?

"Mr. Qiu, I, Qian Yue, pledge my loyalty to you. I will serve you without hesitation, even at the cost of my life!"

Overwhelmed with emotion, Qian Yue knelt at Qiu Tu's feet.

Living in Beast City had always been a tense existence for him. He had lived in constant fear of being discovered, unable even to walk freely in the streets.

But now, as a member of the Qiu Mansion, all those fears would vanish. He could finally hold his head high and walk openly, no longer a fugitive in his own city.

Chapter 4630

“Hahaha, very good! As long as you work hard, you will never lack resources. In the Qiu Mansion, everyone is treated equally, whether human, demon, or beast,” Qiu Tu said with a hearty laugh.

“I will definitely work hard!” Qian Yue replied, his voice trembling with excitement as his body shook slightly.

“Good. I’ll take these fairy stones now, and you won’t be short of purple gold spirit coins,” Qiu Tu said, tossing a bag of coins to Qian Yue.

“Mr. Qiu, these fairy stones are my offering to the Qiu Mansion—a token of respect and my humble gift!” Qian Yue stammered, hesitating to accept the coins.

“At the Qiu Mansion, we don’t operate like that. Take the money and focus on collecting more fairy stones in the future,” Qiu Tu said firmly, leaving the bag of coins behind as he ordered his men to gather the fairy stones and leave.

Qian Yue stared at the bag of purple gold spirit coins in disbelief, feeling as though he were dreaming.

He never imagined that things would turn out like this.

In just moments, he had been welcomed into the Qiu Mansion, and the generosity extended to him was far beyond his expectations.

Qian Yue made up his mind to align himself fully with the Qiu Mansion from now on. The promise he had made to Kai to help acquire fairy stones was now a distant memory.

When Kai came looking for the stones, Qian Yue decided he would simply return the purple gold spirit coins and wash his hands of the matter.

As Qiu Tu stepped out of the courtyard, a sly smirk spread across his face.

He couldn't believe how easily Qian Yue had been swayed with just a few words—and without any real effort or cost.

The reason Qiu Tu instructed Qian Yue to continue secretly purchasing fairy stones was to avoid drawing attention from the other beast generals.

Officially purchased fairy stones were meticulously documented, making it impossible to conceal their movements. All transactions went through the hands of the three beast generals, which was why the generals ignored the corruption at the official purchase points.

In reality, each of the three beast generals was secretly building their power and hoarding resources, but they had to operate discreetly.

Qiu Tu's plan to have Qian Yue secretly acquire fairy stones for the Qiu Mansion was part of this covert strategy.

Shortly after Qiu Tu left, Kai arrived at the courtyard.

If Kai had been just a little earlier, the two might have crossed paths.

That meeting would certainly have been interesting! In Beast City, Kai crossing paths with Qiu Tu seemed inevitable, but it was unlikely he would gain any advantage in such a confrontation.

As soon as Kai stepped through the door, he unexpectedly ran into Qian Yue, who appeared to be heading out.

“Uncle Qian, are you going somewhere?” Kai asked curiously.

After all, Qian Yue was a human cultivator. Living in constant fear of being discovered, he rarely dared to leave his home.

“No, I just heard some noise and came out to check. I didn’t expect it to be you. Come in!”

Qian Yue lied and quickly invited Kai inside.

He couldn’t let Kai know he had allied himself with the Qiu Mansion. As a fellow human cultivator, Kai had even entrusted him with the task of purchasing fairy stones.

If Qian Yue revealed his new allegiance, he feared Kai would resent him.

Once inside, Kai began to speak. “Uncle Qian, I—”

“Kai, I can’t help you buy fairy stones anymore. The inspections have become too strict. It’s better if I return your money,” Qian Yue interrupted, handing back the bag of purple gold spirit coins.

Kai accepted the coins but replied, “Uncle Qian, I’m not here about the fairy stones this time. I want to propose a partnership.”

“A partnership? What kind of partnership?” Qian Yue asked, puzzled.

Kai quickly set up a shielding formation to ensure privacy, then leaned in and whispered, “Uncle Qian, I’ve discovered a fairy stone vein. I want to work with you to mine it.”

“What? A fairy stone vein?”

Qian Yue’s eyes widened in shock, and his voice grew louder. His expression was one of disbelief and astonishment.

“Yes, a fairy stone vein with a significant amount of fairy stones. If we mine it together, you won’t need to secretly buy fairy stones anymore,” Kai explained, nodding confidently.

“Impossible! How could there be a fairy stone vein? I haven’t heard of one in years!”

Qian Yue shook his head, unable to believe Kai’s claim.

Chapter 4631

“I didn’t believe it at first, but after seeing it with my own eyes, there’s no way it could be fake,” Kai said confidently.

“If you still have doubts, come with me and see for yourself. Then you can decide whether to cooperate with me.”

Qian Yue nodded thoughtfully. “Alright, I’ll go take a look. If there really is a fairy stone vein, I’ll definitely work with you!”

A fairy stone vein could bring unimaginable wealth, and the thought excited Qian Yue.

Without wasting time, he followed Kai out of the city, heading straight for the hidden vein.

When they descended the cliff and entered the cave, Qian Yue was utterly stunned.

He had never imagined that a fairy stone vein could be concealed in such a remote place!

“Uncle Qian?”

A surprised voice called out. Kai’s youngest sister hadn’t expected him to bring Qian Yue along.

Her brother recognized Qian Yue too. After all, he had sold fairy stones to him before—they were old acquaintances.

However, the fewer people who knew about this vein, the better.

Kai's sudden decision to involve Qian Yue left her brother confused.

"We can't mine this fairy stone vein on our own, so I brought Uncle Qian in to cooperate," Kai explained calmly.

"What about my brother?"

Xiong Ying ignored the fairy stone vein entirely, her focus solely on her missing brother.

"Don't worry," Kai reassured her. "Once I settle things here, I'll bring your brother back safely."

Hearing this, Xiong Ying relaxed and nodded. She trusted Kai.

Unlike her younger brother, who always looked at her with lecherous, unsettling eyes, Kai seemed upright and dependable.

"I'm in," Qian Yue said excitedly after examining the fairy stone vein. "Leave the mining to me!"

"Good," Kai agreed. "This vein is yours to manage. I have other matters to handle."

"When the stones are mined, sell them all to me. I'll pay above market price—you won't lose out." Kai turned to Qian Yue and said, "No problem, leave it to me. You can rest assured!"

Qian Yue nodded confidently.

"Brother-in-law, aren't you worried about handing over the fairy stone vein to someone else and not managing it yourself?"

The youngest sister's brother leaned in and asked Kai in a low voice.

Kai smiled and replied, "If you trust someone, don't doubt them. If you doubt them, don't use them. Besides, you're staying here to keep an eye on things."

“I’m going to release Xiong Kuo. Once he’s here, nothing will go wrong!”

With that, Kai smiled faintly and left without hesitation.

Kai seemed to have complete trust in Qian Yue.

However, what Kai didn’t know was that as soon as he left, Qian Yue immediately contacted Qiu Tu.

Qian Yue understood that he couldn’t control the fairy stone vein on his own.

If he wanted to maximize his profits, he had to inform Qiu Tu.

By aligning himself with the Qiu family, he could secure greater benefits.

As for Kai’s trust? Qian Yue didn’t care. In this world, trust meant nothing. You couldn’t eat trust, after all.

...

Beast City, Xing Mansion

Kai arrived at the Xing Mansion to obtain an amnesty order from Xing Daorong so he could release Xiong Kuo.

However, the atmosphere in the Xing Mansion was tense and filled with murderous intent. Everyone wore grim expressions.

“Bai Cheng, what’s going on? Did something happen?”

Sensing the hostility in the air, Kai questioned Bai Cheng.

“Mr. Chen, the Qiu Mansion is mobilizing troops and may launch an attack on us. General Xing is actively preparing for war,” Bai Cheng explained while following Kai.

“Why is the Qiu Mansion suddenly making a move? Isn’t there a famous Beast General here? What’s his stance on this?”

Kai was puzzled. Why would the Qiu Mansion suddenly target the Xing Mansion?

Chapter 4632

“I’m not sure either. General Xing just ordered us to stay prepared. I don’t know anything beyond that,” Bai Cheng replied, shaking his head.

Kai understood that Bai Cheng was merely an ordinary guest official. It was unlikely he had access to sensitive information, especially since he wasn’t one of the more influential guests in the Xing Mansion.

“Where is General Xing? I need to speak with him,” Kai asked.

“He’s in the hall, discussing matters with several commanders. You might want to wait and see him later,” Bai Cheng suggested as he walked alongside Kai.

Kai nodded, deciding to wait outside. He had no intention of getting too involved in the Xing Mansion’s internal conflicts.

Although he currently served as a guest official, it was out of necessity. Sooner or later, he planned to leave.

“Guest Official Chen, General Xing requests your presence...”

At that moment, the hall doors opened, and a commander called out to Kai.

“Me?”

Kai was surprised. He hadn’t expected General Xing to already know he had returned. Without hesitation, he followed the commander into the hall.

Inside, only six armored commanders were present—no guest officials in sight.

It was clear that such sensitive matters excluded guest officials. After all, they were merely temporary allies, not true members of the Xing family.

“Kai, have a seat,” Xing Daorong said calmly upon seeing him enter.

Kai sat down and asked, “General Xing, why is the Qiu Mansion suddenly taking action against you?”

Instead of answering, Xing Daorong questioned him, “Did you leave the city?”

“Yes,” Kai replied with a nod.

“You killed Qiu Wanqing’s son, Qiu Yu?” Xing Daorong continued.

Kai paused briefly, then nodded and explained, “Yes, but he was pursuing me with the intent to kill me first.” “Could the Qiu Mansion have acted just because I killed Qiu Yu?”

Kai found this hard to believe. Although he was a guest official of the Xing Mansion, he was still just a guest.

If the Qiu Mansion wanted revenge for Qiu Yu’s death, they could have targeted him directly. It seemed excessive for them to escalate the matter and involve the entire Xing Mansion.

After all, a guest was not truly part of the Xing family.

“Killing Qiu Yu was merely a trigger. Qiu Wanqing had already planned to move against us,” Xing Daorong explained.

“For now, it’s best if you don’t wander around Beast City. The Qiu Mansion might try to harm you.”

“I’ll have my men prepare more resources for you. Focus on your cultivation within the mansion,” Xing Daorong instructed, clearly unwilling to let Kai leave.

Hearing this, Kai quickly spoke up, “General Xing, I need another pardon order to rescue someone else from prison.”

“That’s fine. But the prison is in chaos. Captain Zhou was killed, and General Yan is furious,” Xing Daorong replied.

“After all, the prison falls under his jurisdiction, and Captain Zhou was one of his men. He’s currently investigating the matter.”

“I’ll have Bai Cheng accompany you. You can rescue whoever you need to, but the prison will likely undergo strict reforms soon.”

Xing Daorong’s tone was firm.

“Captain Zhou was actually killed by the Qiu family’s eldest son. I was there when it happened,” Kai explained, detailing the situation.

Xing Daorong frowned. “Keep this quiet. Don’t spread the word. Just focus on freeing the person you need to.”

With that, he casually tossed a pardon order to Kai.

Kai was puzzled. Why wouldn’t Xing Daorong want to make this public? Wouldn’t it make sense to ally with the Yan Mansion against the Qiu family?

Still, Kai didn’t question it further and left with the pardon order in hand.

Accompanied by Bai Cheng, Kai headed to the prison and used the amnesty to release Xiong Kuo.

As Xiong Kuo, a towering figure eight feet tall, stepped out of the prison, tears welled in his eyes.

“Mr. Chen, I can’t thank you enough. Have you seen my sister? Is she safe?” Xiong Kuo asked anxiously.

Chapter 4633

“Your sister is doing well, but there’s something I don’t understand—why didn’t you tell the truth?”

Kai looked at Xiong Kuo with a questioning expression.

Xiong Kuo was stunned. “Mr. Chen, what do you mean? I don’t know what I lied about.”

“Your sister is clearly very beautiful, yet you said she was average-looking,” Kai replied.

Xiong Ying was undeniably a beauty, but Xiong Kuo had claimed she was just average!

“Really? I honestly think my sister is average. Nothing special about her looks,” Xiong Kuo responded innocently.

Kai was speechless. It seemed Xiong Kuo simply couldn’t recognize the beauty of his own family.

After all, when people live together daily, they tend to focus on flaws, and frequent arguments can make them overlook each other’s strengths.

“Head to the fairy stone vein. Your sister is there, and I’ve already arranged for someone to begin mining it.”

“But don’t worry, you’ll get your share,” Kai assured him.

He sent Xiong Kuo out of the city to the fairy stone vein. Since Xiong Kuo was the one who discovered it, Kai wouldn’t exclude him.

Moreover, Xiong Kuo was in the Mahayana realm, making him stronger than the youngest sister and Xiong Ying. His presence could also help keep Qian Yue in check.

After Xiong Kuo left, Kai returned to the Xing Mansion. He planned to use the next few days to cultivate with the resources he had.

He aimed to break through to the Mahayana realm as soon as possible. Only then could he stand fearlessly against the powerful figures in Beast City!

However, Kai was unaware that Qiu Tu had already led his men to the fairy stone vein.

Staring at the glowing fairy stones, Qiu Tu was overjoyed.

The youngest sister and Xiong Ying had been captured. As mere Tribulation Realm cultivators, they were powerless against Mahayana-level opponents.

“Mr. Qiu, with this fairy stone vein, we’re bound to make a fortune!”

Qian Yue looked at Qiu Tu with excitement.

“You’ve done well. The Qiu Mansion will reward you generously,” Qiu Tu praised.

“I didn’t expect you to achieve such a major accomplishment so soon after joining us. How exactly did you find this fairy stone vein?”

Qiu Tu looked at Qian Yue and asked, “How did you find this place?”

“Mr. Qiu, a cultivator named Kai wanted to partner with me to mine this fairy stone vein, so he brought me here,” Qian Yue explained.

“But he has no idea that I’ve already joined the Qiu Mansion.”

“Kai?” Qiu Tu frowned upon hearing the name.

“Mr. Qiu, Kai is the one who killed your brother! He used a sword to take your brother’s beast pill!”

The youngest sister’s brother quickly blurted out, raising his voice.

He knew that if he didn’t align himself with Qiu Tu now, he might not survive.

Without hesitation, he betrayed Kai.

“Brother! How could you say that?”

The youngest sister was furious upon seeing her brother turn on Kai.

“Kai was the one who got you out of prison!” she shouted.

“What does that matter? Staying alive is all that counts now!”

Her brother was only focused on saving his own skin.

Qiu Tu glanced at him with a cold sneer. “Let him go.”

The youngest sister’s brother was immediately freed. He ran over to Qiu Tu with a flattering smile.

“Mr. Qiu, I’m willing to serve the Qiu family. Please give me a chance!” he pleaded.

“Do you know Kai well?” Qiu Tu asked, eyeing him sharply.

“Yes, very well! Kai slept with my sister, so we’re quite close,” he lied without hesitation.

“But my sister was forced into it. Kai is powerful, and we siblings had no choice but to follow him and endure it.”

In truth, it was he who tried to force his sister onto Kai, but now he shamelessly twisted the story to gain Qiu Tu’s sympathy.

Chapter 4634

“If I order you to lure Kai here, how confident are you?”

Qiu Tu asked coldly.

He intended to send the youngest sister’s brother to find Kai and lead him to the fairy stone mine, where he could capture him in one swift move.

His brother’s death demanded vengeance!

Although Qiu Tu had been defeated by Kai before, he was far more confident this time because he had brought Master Luan along.

Master Luan was an expert in formations. With the two of them working together, dealing with Kai would be effortless!

“Mr. Qiu, there’s no need to lure Kai. Now that we control the fairy stone mine, he’ll definitely return!”

“Our top priority should be mining the fairy stones and making preparations. When Kai shows up, we can easily capture him!”

Qian Yue advised.

Qiu Tu nodded in agreement. “You’re right. That man will surely come back to check on this place. We just need to be ready.”

“Master Luan, set up formations around the mine. Once Kai returns, he must be trapped.”

“Rest assured, sir. No one escapes from the formations I create!” Master Luan replied confidently.

“Mr. Qiu, Kai also understands formations. He’s skilled in the art,” Qian Yue reminded cautiously.

“Hmph! Even if he practices formation arts, can he surpass me?”

Master Luan scoffed, clearly displeased by the suggestion.

Qian Yue, startled by his reaction, dared not say another word. He wasn't sure of Master Luan's exact standing in the Qiu Mansion and had only recently joined, so it was best not to offend anyone.

“Master Luan is a senior formation master. Who else could compare?”

“Focus on mining the fairy stones now. Leave everything else aside!”

Qiu Tu spoke to Qian Yue.

“Understood!” Qian Yue nodded.

Master Luan began setting up the formation while Qian Yue led the youngest sister and several cultivators from the Qiu Mansion to mine the fairy stones.

Meanwhile, the youngest sister and Xiong Kuo were temporarily detained.

At the same time, Kai was in secluded cultivation within the Xing Mansion.

With abundant resources at his disposal—especially the century-old offerings from the Sealed Demon League and the fairy stones from Rota's storage bag—Kai cultivated with ease.

The Condensation Heart Technique operated swiftly, steadily increasing his strength.

As long as Kai had sufficient resources, his realm and cultivation could progress rapidly.

Several days later, on a quiet morning, sunlight filtered through the clouds, casting speckled light across the Xing Mansion courtyard.

Kai sat cross-legged in a secluded room, surrounded by a faint spiritual aura. His breathing was deep and steady, resonating with the spiritual energy of heaven and earth.

As spiritual power surged within him, formidable energy gathered in his body, striking against the barriers of his current cultivation level.

Kai's expression alternated between pain and fierce determination. He was clearly at a critical moment in breaking through to the Mahayana realm.

Suddenly, the quiet room erupted in dazzling light as an overwhelming surge of spiritual energy burst from Kai's body, illuminating the entire space.

At that moment, dark clouds blanketed the sky over Beast City, and bolts of thunder tribulation crackled ominously.

The abrupt change left many cultivators in Beast City bewildered, fearing it was the end of the world.

"Damn! What's happening? This thunder tribulation is terrifying! Has someone broken through to the Immortal Realm?"

"I haven't seen thunder tribulation this intense in ages. The last time was when the city lord ascended to the Immortal Realm!"

"Could another Immortal Realm powerhouse have emerged in Beast City?"

Countless cultivators stared at the sky in shock, watching as thunderbolts as thick as tree trunks flashed menacingly within the dark clouds.

Chapter 4635

"What's happening?" Xing Daorong stepped out of the room.

“General Xing, it seems Mr. Chen is about to break through to the Mahayana realm,” Bai Cheng said, glancing at the room where Kai was cultivating.

“It’s just a breakthrough to the Mahayana realm. Why is it causing such a commotion?” Xing Daorong asked, puzzled.

After all, Beast City had many Mahayana cultivators, and breakthroughs to this realm weren’t uncommon. Yet, none had ever caused such a disturbance.

“General Xing, don’t forget—Mr. Chen is a dragon, a true dragon cultivator,” Bai Cheng reminded him.

Xing Daorong fell silent, his gaze fixed on the thunderclouds gathering in the sky.

The sky darkened as if ink had spilled across it. Thick clouds rolled in from all directions, pressing down on the mountain with a suffocating weight.

Flashes of lightning crackled through the dark clouds, silver bolts twisting like dragons, heralding an unprecedented thunder tribulation.

Kai knew the most critical moment had arrived. Taking a deep breath, he closed his eyes. Spiritual energy surged through his body like a roaring river, gathering in his dantian and forming a mighty force.

He felt the ebb and flow of the world’s spiritual energy, resonating in harmony with heaven and earth, as if he had become one with the universe.

Then, the first bolt of lightning tore across the sky.

A thick, silver thunderbolt screamed through the air, striking directly at Kai.

Gritting his teeth, Kai braced himself and endured the thunder's fury with his body.

But this was only the beginning.

More bolts followed, crashing down like a relentless storm, each carrying the destructive power of a natural disaster.

Kai's figure flickered within the blinding lightning. Each strike seared him with unbearable pain, as though countless blades were slicing through his flesh. Yet, Kai did not retreat. Gritting his teeth, he persevered, holding himself up with sheer willpower as he waged a desperate battle against the thunder tribulation.

During this ordeal, Kai's body endured an unprecedented trial.

The thunder's force scorched his skin, leaving charred marks, and in some areas, his flesh was torn and bloody.

However, the spiritual energy within him continuously repaired these injuries, and with each recovery, his physical strength advanced by leaps and bounds.

More importantly, Kai's mental strength was elevated through the baptism of the thunder tribulation.

He sensed the will of heaven and earth hidden within the lightning—a primal and pure force, as if it were nature's deepest call.

He tried to comprehend this power, exploring its mysteries, seeking to align his mind with the cosmos and transcend his limitations.

As time passed, the thunder tribulation reached its peak.

Bolts of lightning, as thick as dragons, crashed down from the heavens, each powerful enough to shatter a mountain.

Kai's spiritual energy surged wildly, fusing with the thunder and lightning around him.

He was no longer merely defending but began to counterattack—actively channeling the power of the lightning to confront the tribulation, showcasing incredible mastery and strength.

Finally, with one last earth-shattering roar, the final bolt of lightning dissolved into the sky. The dark thunderclouds dispersed, revealing a long-lost clear sky.

The house where Kai had been cultivating was reduced to ashes. He now stood amid the ruins—his clothes tattered, hair disheveled—but his eyes gleamed with newfound brightness and depth, as though he had grasped the secrets of heaven and earth.

In that moment, his heart brimmed with reverence and understanding of power, life, and the natural world. Yet, he knew this was only the beginning. The path ahead remained long and uncertain.

“Boom!”

With a thunderous explosion, the aura surrounding Kai suddenly expanded, as if it could tear apart the very fabric of the world.

Chapter 4636

In an instant, Kai's spiritual power fluctuations converged, yet his composure and depth grew even stronger—a distinct aura belonging only to a Mahayana realm master.

A dazzling light flashed in Kai's eyes, reflecting the joy and confidence of his breakthrough.

Feeling the surging power coursing through his body, a satisfied smile tugged at the corner of his lips. He had finally stepped into the Mahayana realm, marking a significant leap in his strength.

“Mr. Kai, congratulations on breaking through to the Mahayana realm!”

Bai Cheng rushed forward, eager to offer his congratulations.

Kai’s breakthrough was nothing short of extraordinary, and Bai Cheng was the only one who truly grasped how formidable Kai had become.

Though Kai was now only a first-grade Mahayana cultivator, he wouldn’t even spare a glance at a fifth-grade Mahayana cultivator at this point.

Xing Daorong quickly approached, barely able to contain his excitement. “Fellow Daoist Chen, the commotion from your Mahayana breakthrough was livelier than most Transformation Realm advancements!”

“Before long, all of Beast City will be gossiping that someone in my Xing Mansion has broken into the Transformation Realm...”

Xing Daorong was thrilled. Kai’s breakthrough had stirred waves comparable to those of the Transformation Realm!

If people mistook this event as a Transformation Realm advancement within the Xing Mansion, it would be a blessing.

No one would dare challenge the Xing Mansion then!

“General Xing, you’re too kind. It’s merely a breakthrough into the Mahayana realm, still far from the Transformation Realm,” Kai replied with a faint smile.

Despite his humble words, Kai was genuinely pleased with his advancement.

“General Xing, I’ll take Mr. Chen to change and freshen up,” Bai Cheng suggested.

At that moment, Kai’s clothes were in tatters, as if he had been struck by lightning. A proper wash was certainly in order.

“Go ahead,” Xing Daorong said with a wave of his hand.

Kai followed Bai Cheng to clean up.

Meanwhile, all of Beast City was in an uproar!

The other two generals’ mansions were especially alert, as the thunder tribulation clearly targeted the Xing Mansion. This could only mean that someone there had ascended to a higher realm! But what kind of powerful realm would trigger such a terrifying thunder tribulation?

Aside from the Immortal Transformation Realm, what other realms could it be?

“General, this thunder tribulation is definitely targeting the Xing Mansion. It seems someone there has broken through to a higher realm!”

In the Qiu Mansion, a commander reported to Qiu Wanqing.

“I can see that, but what kind of breakthrough would cause such a terrifying thunder tribulation?”

“It can’t be the Immortal Transformation Realm, right? Xing Daorong is only at the eighth level of the Mahayana Realm. How could he advance to the Immortal Transformation Realm so quickly?”

Qiu Wanqing frowned slightly.

“General, could Xing Daorong have secretly invited a guest cultivator? The Xing Mansion has many guest officials. If one of them at the ninth level of the Mahayana Realm broke through, that might explain it.”

Someone speculated.

“Impossible. How could a ninth-grade Mahayana cultivator serve as a guest under Xing Daorong? Besides, there are very few ninth-grade Mahayana cultivators in all of Beast City. If there were more, the three of us wouldn’t hold the positions of beast generals.”

“Keep a close watch on the Xing Mansion. Don’t provoke them for now. We’ll wait until Tu’er finishes mining enough fairy stones before taking action.”

Qiu Wanqing couldn’t believe anyone in the Xing Mansion had reached the Immortal Realm. That was simply impossible!

“Understood!” the commander responded with a nod.

Meanwhile, deep within the ancient tree space of the prison, the city lord was focused on cultivating but was abruptly disturbed by the terrifying thunder tribulation.

“Someone is undergoing a tribulation? For a thunder tribulation strong enough to disrupt my cultivation, could it be that someone has ascended to the Immortal Realm again?”

The city lord frowned slightly, doubt flashing in his eyes.

Beast City had remained hidden for thousands of years, and he was well aware of the cultivators’ levels throughout the city.

It was impossible for anyone to break through to the Immortal Realm so suddenly.

Yet, the thunder tribulation just now was clearly no ordinary one—it had even disrupted his practice.

If it were the tribulation of a typical Mahayana cultivator, it wouldn’t have affected him at all.

“It seems I must send someone to investigate...”

The city lord sighed softly before slowly closing his eyes again.

Chapter 4637

Xing Mansion

After changing into fresh clothes, Kai glanced at his remaining resources and couldn't help but sigh.

Although he had broken through to the Mahayana Realm, the Demon Sealing League's century-long offering had been completely consumed, leaving him with very little.

Even the fairy stones from Narota were nearly depleted after his breakthrough.

Reaching the Mahayana Realm had drained so many resources—how would he manage in the future?

If advancing to the Immortal Realm required even more, he doubted whether all the resources in the Tianren Realm would be enough.

“It seems I need to start gathering resources more urgently...”

Kai muttered helplessly.

“Mr. Chen, what did you say?”

Bai Cheng, unable to hear him clearly, asked.

“Oh, it's nothing. Go inform General Xing that I'm heading out of the city,” Kai replied.

He planned to check on the fairy stone vein. Several days had passed, and a new batch of fairy stones should have been mined by now.

“Mr. Chen, if you're leaving the city now, be cautious. Don't let anyone from the Qiu Mansion spot you,” Bai Cheng reminded him.

“I understand,” Kai nodded before departing from the Xing Mansion.

Soon, he arrived at the mountaintop, gazing at the cliff ahead. One leap down, and he would reach the mine's entrance.

A simple structure now stood at the summit—likely built by Qian Yue.

Kai approached the building.

“Kai...”

Qian Yue emerged from the structure, his eyes lighting up with excitement. Upon noticing Kai had advanced from the Tribulation Realm to the Mahayana Realm, Qian Yue momentarily froze in shock.

“You actually broke through to the Mahayana Realm? That's incredible!” Qian Yue praised.

“It's just a breakthrough,” Kai replied modestly, then asked, “Uncle Qian, how is the fairy stone mining progressing?”

“I've gathered more workers these past few days, and a batch has already been mined. They're all stored in the cave. Would you like to take a look?”

“Of course!” Kai nodded. Then, scanning the area, he asked, “Uncle Qian, where are my youngest sister and the others? Are they working in the mine too?” “No, they probably went off to play nearby. They're not needed for mining fairy stones,” Qian Yue replied with a smile.

Kai didn't suspect anything and followed Qian Yue, leaping down into the mine.

However, as soon as they entered, Kai suddenly stopped, glanced around, and frowned slightly.

Noticing Kai's reaction, Qian Yue's heart skipped a beat.

“What's wrong?” Qian Yue asked quietly.

“Oh, it’s nothing,” Kai replied, shaking his head.

Hearing this, Qian Yue quietly let out a sigh of relief.

But after only a few more steps, Kai paused again, scanning the surroundings once more.

Qian Yue froze, then stood beside Kai, his eyes shifting as if deep in thought.

“Uncle Qian, while I was away, you didn’t bring anyone else here, did you?”

“And the cultivators you recruited to mine these fairy stones—are they all trustworthy?” Kai questioned.

“Of course, they’re reliable! I only bring in people I can trust. I definitely haven’t told anyone else about this place,” Qian Yue replied, pretending to look slightly offended.

“You don’t trust me?”

“Brother-in-law! You’re here!”

At that moment, Kai’s youngest sister’s brother emerged from the cave, his face full of excitement.

“We’ve mined hundreds of fairy stones over the past few days—we’re rich!” he exclaimed.

Seeing him, Kai’s previously guarded expression softened noticeably.

“Has Xiong Kuo been here?” Kai asked.

“Yeah, he came by but said he had something to handle. He left with Xiong Ying and should be back in a few days.”

“Before leaving, I gave them ten fairy stones. They can trade those for quite a bit of money.”

“After all, they were the ones who discovered this fairy stone vein. It’s only fair they get a share,” the youngest brother explained with a nod.

Chapter 4638

Kai glanced at his youngest sister’s brother, feeling a bit puzzled. Since when did this guy become so thoughtful?

He even gave away ten fairy stones—probably because he’s taken a liking to Xiong Ying and wants to win favor with Xiong Kuo and his siblings.

“Take me inside for a look,” Kai instructed.

He followed his youngest sister’s brother deeper into the mine.

Inside, more than a dozen cultivators were mining fairy stones. Each one was in the Mahayana Realm, radiating impressive strength.

For Qian Yue to gather so many Mahayana cultivators for such a menial task was surprising. He truly had influence!

Kai examined the fairy stones embedded in the walls, reaching out to touch them.

But the moment his hand made contact, a flash of murderous intent appeared in his eyes.

“Uncle Qian, no one has caused you any trouble here recently, right?” Kai asked coldly.

“No, this place is well-hidden. No one knows about it, so how could anyone cause trouble?”

Qian Yue smiled and shook his head.

“If no one’s been here, then who set up the formation inside this mine?”

Kai’s expression darkened, and a chilling aura radiated from his body.

“Formation? What formation? I have no idea what you’re talking about...”

Qian Yue tried to play dumb, pretending he knew nothing.

However, Kai noticed the youngest brother’s face had turned pale, and he avoided Kai’s gaze.

Clearly, he was hiding something.

“Enough pretending. I’ve already seen through it, so there’s no point in acting anymore,” Kai said coldly.

Realizing he had been exposed, Qian Yue dropped the act and said, “Kai, this isn’t what I wanted either. But with such a valuable mineral vein, how could we possibly protect it alone?”

“Even with your breakthrough to the Mahayana Realm, what difference does it make? This vein would be discovered sooner or later. Rather than letting others steal it, it’s better to secure a powerful ally now!” Kai listened to Qian Yue’s words, and fury ignited within him. He had trusted Qian Yue deeply, yet this man had betrayed him after only a few days!

His gaze shifted to his youngest sister’s brother. It now seemed clear that he was in league with Qian Yue.

If that was the case, didn’t it mean that Xiong Kuo and his sister were in danger?

“So, you’ve already found a powerful ally? I wonder if this so-called ally is truly as strong as you think,” Kai said coldly, his aura surging as if ready to strike at any moment.

“Of course, they’re powerful! I won’t hide it anymore. I told Mr. Qiu of the Qiu Mansion about this vein. The monks mining here are from the Qiu Mansion,” Qian Yue sneered.

“Originally, I planned to share some of the profits with you, but who would’ve thought you’d kill Qiu Yu and make an enemy of the Qiu Mansion? You can’t blame me for this.”

“But Mr. Qiu promised that if you surrender quietly, you’ll be spared and kept whole!”

Qian Yue met Kai’s glare without fear. With the Qiu Mansion supporting him, he felt no need to be afraid.

Besides, Master Luan had set up a formation here specifically designed to trap Kai.

As long as he activated the formation, Kai would be instantly bound and pose no threat.

Hearing that Qian Yue had aligned himself with the Qiu Mansion only fueled Kai’s anger.

So, when he had first sought out Qian Yue, this man had already pledged loyalty to the Qiu Mansion.

Kai felt a surge of regret for trusting him so blindly.

However, this wasn’t inside Beast City. Even with the Qiu Mansion behind him, Kai felt no fear—especially now that he had broken through to the Mahayana Realm. Qian Yue was no threat to him.

What truly concerned Kai was the safety of Xiong Kuo, his sister, and the whereabouts of his youngest sister.

“Where are Xiong Kuo and his sister? And where is your sister?” Kai demanded, ignoring Qian Yue and fixing his gaze on his youngest sister’s brother.

“They were ungrateful and refused to cooperate, so we locked them up,” he admitted.

“I didn’t want things to turn out this way, but you’ve offended the Qiu family. You’re bound to die, and if we stayed loyal to you, we’d die too.”

His youngest sister’s brother tried to justify himself, but Kai’s expression only grew colder.

Chapter 4639

“I don’t blame you. When I send you off later, I’ll make it quick to spare you any pain,” Kai said calmly.

The youngest sister’s brother trembled at Kai’s words. He had witnessed Kai’s power firsthand—killing him would be as effortless as crushing an ant.

But with the Qiu Mansion backing them, he clung to the hope that Kai wouldn’t stand a chance against their forces.

“Hmph, don’t be so arrogant. We might not be your match, but this formation was designed specifically for you!”

As Qian Yue spoke, a jade slip appeared in his hand. Without hesitation, he crushed it.

Suddenly, brilliant spiritual lights illuminated the entire mine.

Blinding beams of light shot up around Kai, forming pillars that encircled him like the bars of a glowing prison.

Seeing Kai trapped, Qian Yue and the youngest sister’s brother sighed in relief and burst into laughter.

“Kai, let me tell you—this formation was crafted just for you by a master array expert hired by the Qiu Mansion!”

“I know you’re familiar with formations, but you’ll never break this one!” the youngest sister’s brother sneered.

He understood Kai’s abilities and background well. Now that Kai was caught in the formation, there was no escape.

“Exactly! This formation is quite special. It gradually shrinks the surrounding space, crushing your body little by little. In the end, you’ll be reduced to dust.”

“You won’t even leave behind a complete corpse. But if you surrender now, Mr. Qiu might spare you. He’s interested in the sword you’re carrying. Offer it to him, and he might just let you live!”

Qian Yue’s voice was full of confidence.

It was clear that Qiu Tu had already instructed them—Kai’s Dragon Slaying Sword was a powerful spiritual weapon. As a sword cultivator, Qiu Tu would surely covet it.

“You two really believe this formation can hold me?”

Kai smiled faintly.

“What? You think you can still escape?”

Qian Yue stared at him in disbelief.

“It seems you know far too little about me. In this Heaven and Man Realm, no formation can trap me, Kai!” After Kai finished speaking, a surge of powerful spiritual energy erupted from his body.

Qian Yue’s expression shifted dramatically. He quickly channeled his spiritual energy, activating the formation to begin compressing, attempting to crush Kai into dust.

Kai’s ability to kill Qiu Yu was proof that he was far from ordinary.

Now that Kai's strength had advanced even further, Qian Yue didn't dare underestimate him, even with the formation in place.

Qian Yue was determined to keep Kai trapped and would not allow him to escape.

However, Qian Yue was completely unaware that Kai's mastery of formations far surpassed that of any so-called high-level formation master.

This "advanced formation" was nothing in Kai's eyes.

Kai had learned both divine patterns and magic patterns—taught by none other than the Formation Demon and the Divine Pattern Ancestor.

No so-called formation master in the Heavenly Realm could compare to the creators of divine patterns.

"If you insist on resisting, don't blame me for what happens next..." Qian Yue threatened, glaring at Kai.

Kai smirked. "You're like frogs at the bottom of a well. You think this formation can trap me? What a joke."

"Kai, you should stop resisting. Considering your relationship with my sister, I might speak up for you. Maybe you won't have to die!" the youngest sister's brother suddenly suggested.

Kai shot him a disdainful glance. "You think you're qualified to speak to me?"

With that, Kai lightly stomped his foot.

A pulse of spiritual energy rippled out from under him, spreading rapidly through the ground.

Boom!

A deafening explosion echoed as the entire mine trembled. The glowing pillars around Kai instantly shattered, and the formation was obliterated by the force.

Chapter 4640

“This...!”

Qian Yue and the youngest sister’s brother stood frozen, staring in disbelief at the shattered formation.

Qian Yue, in particular, was utterly stunned. His mind buzzed in shock, unable to comprehend what had just happened.

He had believed the formation was unbreakable, yet Kai had effortlessly destroyed it!

Master Luan had spent tremendous effort setting up that formation. Qian Yue had personally tested it and couldn’t even shake it, no matter how hard he tried.

Yet now, Kai had dismantled it as if it were nothing. It was beyond belief!

Qian Yue couldn’t begin to understand how Kai had done it.

“I told you—this formation was never capable of trapping me.”

Kai stepped forward, slowly advancing toward Qian Yue.

Fear flooded Qian Yue’s eyes as he instinctively backed away.

The youngest sister’s brother trembled violently, frozen in place, unable to move.

At that moment, both of them were overwhelmed with despair. If even this formation couldn’t hold Kai, how could the two of them possibly stop him?

“Attack him! Quickly!”

Qian Yue roared in panic, ordering the Qiu Mansion monks to strike.

Their only hope now was to stall Kai long enough for Qiu Tu and Master Luan to arrive and subdue him.

In response, more than a dozen monks charged at Kai.

Meanwhile, Qian Yue and the youngest sister’s brother fled the mine, leaping up and sprinting toward the mountaintop.

Most of the Qiu Mansion monks were only at the third or fourth level of the Tribulation Realm—far too weak to threaten Kai.

However, to avoid damaging the fairy stone mine, Kai swiftly dashed out of the cave.

Seeing this, the monks gave chase, thinking Kai was retreating in fear.

But as they exited the mine, they saw Kai calmly floating in the air, waiting for them.

The monks exchanged uneasy glances before lunging at Kai together.

“Hmph, ignorant insects...”

Kai scoffed coldly.

A searing flame ignited in his palm, and with a single, powerful swing, he unleashed it upon them. Boom!

Blazing flames erupted, engulfing the dozen monks instantly!

“Ahhh!”

Agonized screams echoed as the monks were consumed by fire, their bodies plummeting off the cliff one after another.

The chilling cries made Qian Yue and the youngest sister's brother glance back in terror.

When they saw Kai annihilate the dozen Mahayana Realm monks with a single strike, fear gripped them to the core.

Panicked, they scrambled to the mountaintop. The youngest sister's brother hurried to the prison where Xiong Kuo, his sister, and the youngest sister were held, dragging them out.

He knew that his only chance of survival now lay with these three. His plan was to use their lives to threaten Kai into sparing him.

Qian Yue shared the same thought, shoving Xiong Kuo, his sister, and the youngest sister forward as shields.

Moments later, Kai descended gracefully onto the mountaintop after eliminating the Qiu family monks.

"Kai, don't come any closer! This is a trap... a trap set for you!"

The youngest sister shouted urgently, unaware that the formation meant to ensnare Kai had already been destroyed.

"Kai, let me go! Think of my sister—she still cares about you!"

The youngest sister's brother pleaded desperately.

"Take another step, and I'll kill all three of them!"

Qian Yue threatened, holding Xiong Kuo and the others hostage.

Kai remained calm and expressionless.

"What does their death have to do with me? We're not related. If they die, that's fewer people I have to share the fairy stone vein with."

Unfazed, Kai steadily advanced.

Qian Yue panicked. If these hostages couldn't deter Kai, he was out of options.

Suddenly, a cold voice echoed through the air.

“Boy, you're finally here. I've been waiting for you...”

It was Qiu Tu.